Bruce Hanks, 'Mr. March of Dimes,' dies at age 74

1989

Stanley Bruce Hanks, 74, known to many as "Mr. March of Dimes" because of his leadership in the organization, died Nov. 23, 1989, in a Salt Lake hospital of a stroke and complications from diabetes.

He served as March of Dimes state representative and Western states regional director for 28 years, initiating such events in Utah as the Porch Light Parade, Mother's March, a telerama and The Haunted House.

Mr. Hanks, who was a brother of Elder Marion D. Hanks of the presidency of the Seventy of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, served in the March of Dimes during an era of medical and other progress. The first Salk vaccine, which greatly diminished the number of polio cases, was administered, and the organization later focused its efforts on birth defects.

After retiring in 1977 from the March of Dimes, he worked another eight years for Medic Alert.

He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II and worked for the telephone company and Western Airlines.

He served two church missions, one to Great Britain from 1937 to 1939 and one with his wife, the former Cavell Brown, to the Hawaii Temple Visitors Center from 1984 to 1985.

Funeral services will be held at noon Monday, Nov. 27, in the South Cottonwood 7th Ward chapel, 1280 E. 4800 South. Viewing will be at Wasatch Lawn Mortuary, 3401 Highland Drive, from 6 to 8 p.m. Sunday and at the ward chapel one hour before services Monday. Burial in Wasatch Lawn Memorial Park. In lieu of flowers, the family suggestions contributions to the Utah Affiliate, Diabetes Association, 643 E. 400 South.

Stanley Bruce Hanks

Stanley Bruce Hanks, 74, passed away November 23, 1989 at St. Marks Hospital of a stroke and complications of diabetes.

Born October 14, 1915 to Stanley A. and Maude Frame Hanks in Salt Lake City. Attended Wasatch Elementary, West Jr., and West High schools, participating in student government. Bruce was a great athlete receiving many honors in various sports. He married Cavell Brown Hanks November 28, 1940 in the Salt Lake LDS Temple. He was active in the LDS Church. Bruce loved the Lord and his fellowmen. He spent his life serving others. He was a man without guile. He had a strong testimony of the Gospel and served the Lord in many capacities in the church; teaching the youth, Sunday School President in his ward, and active in his High Priest Quorum. He served a mission in Great Briton from 1937-39; and a second mission with his wife at the Hawaiian Temple Visitors Center, 1984-85. His greatest pride and joy is his family who have always adored him and loved each other.

He is survived by his wife, Cavell; five children: daughter Jill and husband, Edward Heyes; sons and their wives, Larry and Susan; Robert and Wendy; Gordon and Jane; David and Korby, all Salt Lake City. He has 24 wonderful grandchildren who dearly love "Grandpa." He is also survived by brother, Marion D. Hanks; and sister, Maurine Busath. He was preceded in death by mother and father; brother, Lincoln; and sisters, Maude May Hanks, Jeannette Sorenson, and Buelah Olsen.

Bruce served in the U.S. Navy during WW II. He worked for the Telephone Co. and Western Airlines. He was known by many as "Mr. March of Dimes," serving as state representative, then regional director for the Western States March of Dimes for 28 years. He initiated such events in Utah as the Porch Light Parade, Mothers March, Telerama, and the Haunted House. During his years with March of Dimes, many exciting accomplishments took place. The Salk Vaccine was perfected which greatly eliminated polio. Then March of Dimes turned to birth defects and has made great strides in which Bruce participated. After he retired from March of Dimes, he worked another eight years for Medic Alert. He always felt blessed because he loved his job and was excited to go to work each day, stating many times that he worked with the most wonderful people on earth--volunteers--those who were willing to give of themselves for others.

Funeral services will be Monday, 12 noon, at South Cottonwood 7th LDS Ward, 1280 East 4800 South. Burial will be at Wasatch Lawn Memorial Park, 3401 South Highland Drive. View at the mortuary Sunday, 6-8 p.m. and at the ward Monday an hour prior to services. In lieu of flowers, the family asks donations to the Diabetes Assoc., Utah Affiliate, 643 East 400 South, SLC.

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OBITUARIES

Steven C. Hanks

Our beloved son and brother, Steven Charles Hanks, age 35, returned to his Heavenly Father, August 23, 1987, where we hope he is happy and we love him.

Born January 12, 1952, Salt Lake City, Utah, son of Clair W. and Juanita Marie Hamel Hanks.

Survived by his mother and father, of Salt Lake City; one brother, David Wiseman, West Jordan; two sisters, Mrs. Charles (Beverly) Lankford, West Jordan; and Mrs. Linda Lee Lampert, Santa Rosa, California; one grandmother, Mrs. Hazel Hamel, Salt Lake City; one niece and one nephew.

Funeral services, Wednesday, August 26th, 2pm, Larkin Chapel, 260 East South Temple, where family will meet friends one hour prior to services. Interment, Wasatch Lawn Memorial Park.

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